VITA Network News

From the CIO

CIO of the
Commonwealth
Lem Stewart

Agency Information Technology Resources (AITRs) may be finding it difficult to keep up with the many fast-paced activities associated with the Commonwealth's IT infrastructure transformation project. We are scheduling meetings for AITRs once a month for at least the next six months as an additional forum to ensure full and open communication. Information regarding the meetings was distributed last week; the first session is September 19. I look forward to seeing you for an open and free-flowing dialogue about the transformation and other topics of interest.

Technology awards to be presented at COVITS

Winners of this year's Governor's Technology Awards will be announced at COVITS 2006. An outstanding field of entries from every region of the Commonwealth competed in seven categories aligned with the Commonwealth Strategic Plan for Information Technology.

Entries were judged by the members of the Commonwealth's Council on Technology Services (COTS), which is led by the CIO and is composed of one Agency IT Resource (AITR) from each Secretariat, four AITRs from public institutions of higher education, one representative of an independent state agency, three representatives from localities and three voting, ex-officio members, including the Secretary of Technology, Director of Legislative Automated Systems, and Director of Information Systems of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

COVITS, hosted by Secretary Chopra on behalf of Governor Tim Kaine, is scheduled Sept. 10-12 at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center.
Read about COVITS

Cyber Security e-newsletter offers tips

The Virginia Office of Commonwealth Preparedness and VITA have partnered with federal officials to provide a monthly newsletter featuring cyber security information. *Cyber Security Tips* is of interest to a wide variety of computer users, from state employees to individual citizens. The newsletter provides information related to specific security standards for state employees and general information that home computer users will find valuable in protecting against cyber attacks. The August issue and the previous two issues are online now.
Read *Cyber Security Tips*

Dell laptop batteries recalled

Dell has announced a recall of certain batteries in some of its laptops that can overheat under rare conditions, posing a risk of fire. VITA is checking Dell laptops used by state employees to see if the batteries in their laptops are subject to the recall. Agencies have been provided additional information on steps to take. [Read about the Dell battery recall program](#)

Online registration service convenient, economical

Virginia.gov's event registration application makes it easy for government entities to offer online registrations. This registration application is easy to customize. It can be used for conferences, seminars, ticket sales, class registration and more. A Web-based administrative interface allows each event to match a particular Web site. If fees are required for event registration, the service can accept payments from the user by electronic check or credit card through a secure site. Benefits include a reliable and secure environment, cost savings, unlimited use, and easy to use administrative tools. For more information, contact Deanna Boehm at (804) 786-4230, 1 (877) 482-3468 or dboehm@virginiainteractive.org.

On the calendar

Sept. 10-12 – COVITS 2006 in Roanoke
Oct. 18-19 – Information Technology Investment Board (ITIB) quarterly meeting

On the Web

www.covits.org
www.vita.virginia.gov
http://www.vita.virginia.gov/ITIB/ITIB.cfm
www.northropgrumman.com